

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 29-34, 41, 42, 44-48, 50-53 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 44 is amended. Claims 8-28, 35-40, 43 and 49 were previously cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the above Amendments and following remarks.

Entry of the amendments/remarks is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) do not raise any new issues requiring further search and/or consideration (since the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout the prosecution); (c) satisfy a requirement of form asserted in the previous Office Action; (d) do not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (e) place the application in better form for appeal should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the Final Rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative during the September 1, 2005 telephone interview. The topics discussed during the interview included a general discussion of the present invention, the references cited in the Office Action and the grounds for rejection.

I. *Claim Objections*

The Office Action objects to claim 44 based upon informalities. By this Amendment, claim 44 is amended. Thus, withdrawal of the objection to claim 44 is respectfully requested.

II. *Claims 1-7, 29-34 and 41, 42, 44-48 and 50-52 Define Patentable*

Subject Matter Pursuant to 35 USC §103

The Office Action rejects claims 1-7, 29-34, and 41, 42, 44-48 and 50-52 under 35 USC §103 (a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Published Application No. 20040088469A1 (the “Levy” reference) in view of U.S. Published Application No. 20050041031A1 (the “Diard” reference). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As described in greater detail below, the present invention provides a unique motherboard that accepts multiple high performance video cards and coordinates those multiple high performance video cards to provide improved video performance to a display device. As described in the specification of the present application, it is highly desirable to provide a motherboard having multiple high-speed video card slots that are capable of receiving high performance video cards that can then be operated concurrently. In this way, the present invention allows the leveraging of multiple standard, off-the-shelf video cards.

37 C.F.R. 1.131(a) states in pertinent part,

[w]hen any claim of an application or a patent under reexamination is rejected, the inventor of the subject matter of the rejected claim, the owner of the patent under reexamination, or the party qualified under §§1.42, 1.43 or 1.47, may submit an appropriate oath or declaration to establish invention of the subject matter of the rejected claim prior to the effective date of the reference or activity on which the rejection is based.

37 C.F.R. 1.131(b) states in pertinent part,

[t]he showing of facts shall be such, in character and weight, as to establish reduction to practice prior to the effective date of the reference, or conception of the invention prior to the effective date of the reference coupled with due diligence from prior to said to a subsequent reduction to practice or to the filing of the application.

U.S. Application No. 10/689,716
Amendment After Final Rejection

Applicants respectfully submit the enclosed Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 establishing Applicants' conception and reduction to practice of the invention claimed in the instant application prior to the effective filing date of Diard. As described in the enclosed Declaration, Applicants conceived of the claimed invention at least as of October 2002. Applicants then diligently reduced the invention to practice as described in the enclosed Declaration. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Diard cannot be properly applied either alone or in combination to reject the claim of the instant application. Thus, in view of the fact that Diard cannot be properly applied against the claims of the instant application, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-7, 29-34, and 41, 42, 44-48 and 50-52 under 35 USC §103 (a) as being unpatentable over Levy in view of Diard is no longer proper. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-7, 29-34, 41, 42, 44-48 and 50-52 under 35 USC §103 (a) is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

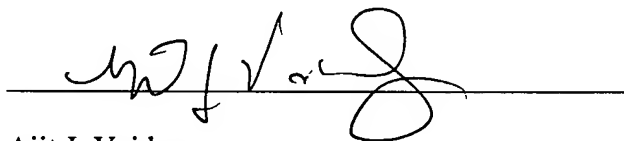
If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1349. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON, LLP

Dated: September 29, 2005

By:



Ajit J. Vaidya
Reg. No. 43,214

David D. Nelson
Reg. No. 47,818

Hogan & Hartson L.L.P.
555 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004-1109
Telephone: (202) 637-5600
Facsimile: (202) 637-5910
Customer No: **24633**

Attachment:

Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 with Attachments